

CLAIMS

1 1. A method for communicating a plurality of data sets, comprising:
2 segmenting each data set into a plurality of segments;
3 assigning a transmission precedence to each of the segments according
4 to the data set from which it was segmented; and
5 transmitting the segments in order of the assigned precedence whereby
6 lower-precedence segments are transmitted during idle transmission time between
7 higher-precedence segments.

1 2 The method recited in claim 1 further comprising assigning a priority
2 to at least one of the data sets whereby segments from each such data set are assigned
3 a higher precedence.

1 3. The method recited in claim 1 wherein the segments are Internet
2 Protocol datagrams.

1 4 The method recited in claim 1 wherein the data sets are image data
2 sets.

1 5. A device for communicating a plurality of data sets, comprising:
2 means for segmenting each data set into a plurality of segments;

3 means for assigning a transmission precedence to each of the segments
4 according to the data set from which it was segmented; and
5 means for transmitting the segments in order of the assigned
6 precedence whereby lower-precedence segments are transmitted during idle
7 transmission-time between higher-precedence segments.

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1 6. The device recited in claim 5 further comprising means for assigning a
2 priority to at least one of the data sets whereby segments from a priority data set are
3 assigned a higher precedence.

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1 7. The device recited in claim 5 wherein the segments are Internet
2 Protocol datagrams.

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1 8. The device recited in claim 5 wherein the data sets are image data sets.

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1 9. A computer readable medium for communicating a plurality of data
2 sets, comprising:

3 logic configured to segment each data set into a plurality of segments;

4 logic configured to assign a transmission precedence to each of the

5 segments according to the data set from which it was segmented; and

6 logic configured to transmit the segments in order of the assigned
7 precedence whereby lower-precedence segments are transmitted during idle
8 transmission time between higher-precedence segments.

1 10. The computer readable medium recited in claim 9 further comprising
2 logic that assigns a priority to at least one of the data sets whereby segments from a
3 priority data set are assigned a higher precedence.

1 11. The computer readable medium recited in claim 9 wherein the
2 segments are Internet Protocol datagrams.

1 12. The method recited in claim 9 wherein the data sets are image data
2 sets.